

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

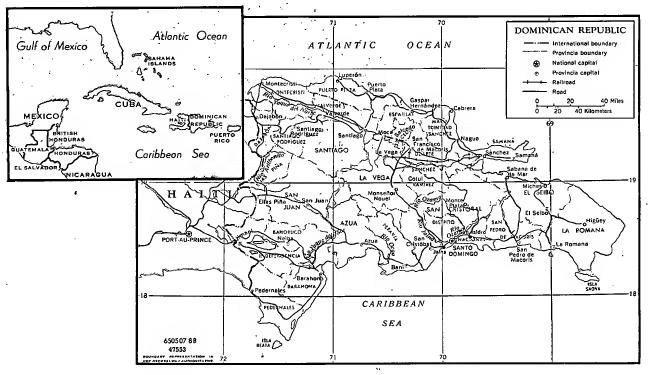
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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11 MAY 1965 TOP SECRET



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DAILY BRIEF 11 MAY 1965

LATE ITEM (Information as of 5:00 p.m. EDT)

Dominican Republic

Juan Bosch is said to be flying to
New York this evening. He wants to hold
a press conference 50X1

He apparently

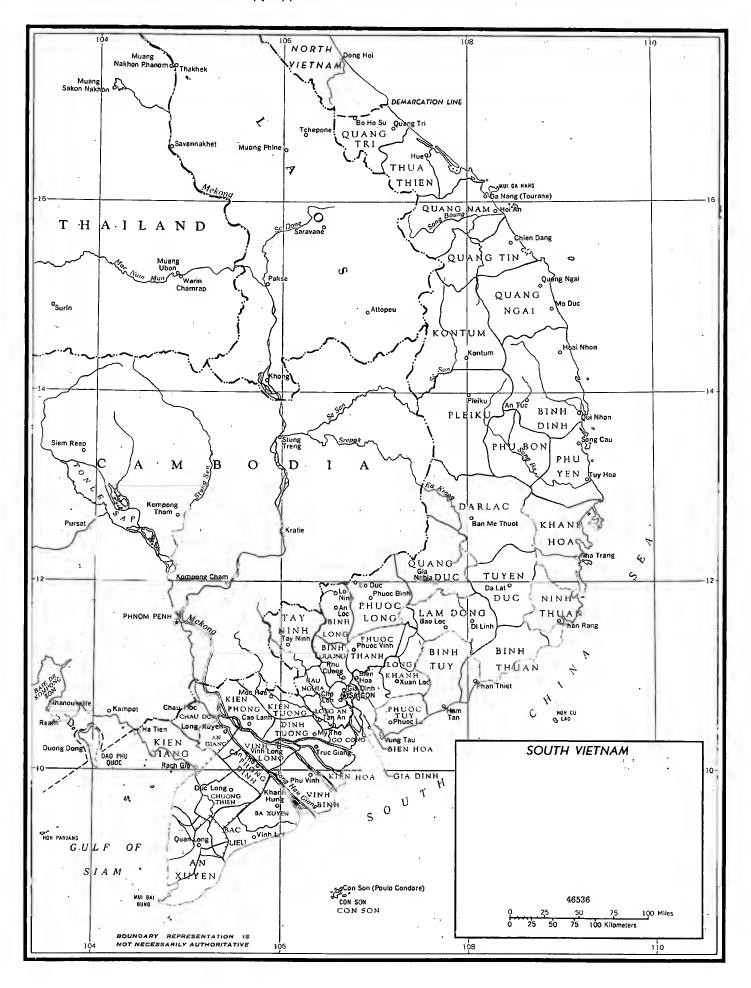
is still clinging to his illusions that the Communists are playing a minimal role in the present situation.

General Wessin's attitude apparently is still that he "cannot abandon his troops" by retiring abroad. General Imbert "in effect" accepted this position last night, according to Ambassador Bennett, and no change in the matter has been reported today.

The US Embassy is looking into the possibility of encouraging Caamano and one of his non-Communist colleagues to participate in a coalition government with the Imbert group. The results of the embassy's soundings on this have not yet come in.

No significant change in the military picture has been reported since yesterday's Brief.

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2. South Vietnam

Premier Quat says he has finally resolved his nagging problem with the military high command. It has been agreed that General Thieu will be minister of defense with expanded responsibilities and "Little" Minh, now commander in chief, will become chief of staff. Quat is concerned, however, that the imminent return to Saigon of "Big" Minh will lead to further trouble with the military.

A major battle seems to be shaping up northeast of Song Be. Government forces are counterattacking a Viet Cong force estimated at three battalions. The Viet Cong took up positions there after occupying Song Be briefly yesterday, in the first Viet Cong major assault on a provincial capital since 1961. (Song Be is also known as Phuoc Binh. See map.)

3. USSR

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4. France

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De Gaulle probably intends to provoke a new crisis in the Common Market in hopes of squeezing economic benefits for France out of his partners without any surrender of French sovereignty.

5. Communist China

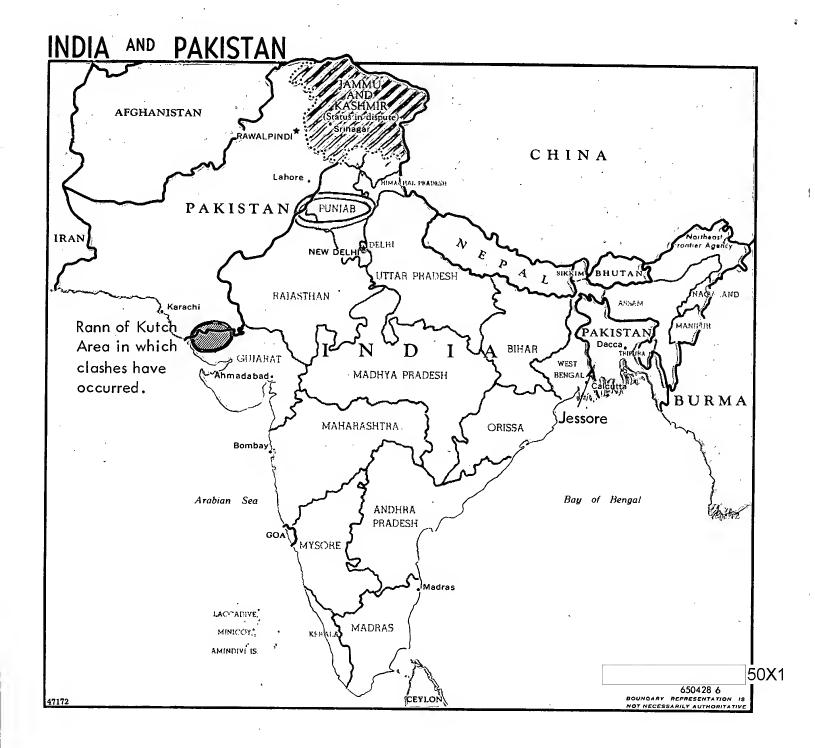
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6. Bolivia

Heavy fighting is in prospect if the government goes through with its plan to send troops into the major tin The miners are armed mining centers. and under the influence of anti-Barrientos leftists. They are likely to resist any attempt by La Paz to reduce their virtually autonomous position in the mines.

All previous efforts to do this have failed, but La Paz is coming to recognize that establishment of government control is necessary before the mines can again be operated profitably.

Trouble could spread to Bolivia's cities since urban workers have a solidarity pact with the miners. Also, Barrientos' announcement that presidential elections have been postponed indefinitely has angered opposition politicians.



7. Ecuador

The military junta is in for some rough sledding in the coming weeks.

Popular unrest is spreading as a result of mounting economic problems. All commercial enterprises in Quayaquil were shut down yesterday to protest new taxes. A similar protest last fall led to serious rioting in the port city. Finally, the armed forces are said to be unhappy about the way the border dispute with Peru is being handled.

In the background ready to take advantage of any opening is a motley collection of leftists, Communists, and followers of ex-President Arosemena, He has vowed to oust the junta which ousted him.

8. India

India and Pakistan have agreed to Prime Minister Wilson's latest proposals. These call for a cease-fire and immediate withdrawal, to be followed by border talks and, if necessary, binding arbitration. Indian forces reportedly have begun to pull back in the Rann of Kutch which is fast reverting to marshland as as it does every year. Elsewhere, troops on both sides remain on the alert, especially in the Punjab area. (See map.)

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